Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Monday 28 Dec 2020 until 23:59 on Tuesday 29 Dec 2020

Forecast Issued on Sunday 27 Dec 2020 at 14:44

Confidence: High for cold conditions throughout the period but lower confidence for details regarding snow showers.

Headline for Monday 28 Dec 2020: Bright or sunny spells, but cold with a few snow showers.

Mountain weather hazards on Monday 28 Dec 2020

Blizzards Low Likelihood	**Heavy Snow** Low Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** High Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Low Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Cloudy	Partly cloudy (night)	Partly cloudy (night)	Sunny intervals	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy
Precipitation probability							
20%	20%	10%	20%	10%	30%	20%	30%

Forecast for Monday 28 Dec 2020

Weather: Still the risk of the odd snow shower overnight, but longer clear spells will develop. Then a bright, cold day with sunny spells and a few snow showers, with perhaps the odd heavy shower around, bringing blizzard conditions over the tops, these mostly over far western fells in morning, but more likely in the northeast later in the day

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 60% with scattered cloud over the summits, but occasional cloud down to 450m in showers.

Visibility: Good or very good, but poor or very poor in showers

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Forecast for Monday 28 Dec 2020

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	24/31 S	23/29 SE	13/20 E	10/14 NE	9/14 E	10/14 NE	13/18 NE	17/22 NE	17/22 NE
600	21/30 S	21/29 SE	15/23 SE	8/13 NE	7/11 E	8/12 NE	9/14 NE	11/16 NE	12/17 NE
300	9/24 S	10/23 SE	7/16 SE	5/11 SE	5/11 E	3/10 N	5/12 NE	5/15 N	6/15 N
Valley	9/21 S	8/18 SE	8/16 E	6/13 E	5/11 E	5/10 NE	8/13 N	8/16 NE	8/17 NE

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-3/-11	-3/-11	-3/-9	-4/-8	-4/-8	-4/-8	-4/-9	-4/-11	-5/-11
600	-1/-8	-2/-9	-2/-8	-2/-6	-2/-6	-2/-6	-2/-7	-3/-8	-3/-8
300	0/-4	0/-4	0/-4	-1/-3	0/-2	-0/-2	-1/-4	-1/-4	-1/-4
Valley	3/-1	2/-1	2/-1	2/-1	3/1	3/1	2/-1	2/-2	2/-1
Freezing Level*	400m	400m	300m	200m	300m	300m	200m	200m	300m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

A severe chill over the tops, despite light winds. Fresh lying snow, especially above 200m, and icy areas will add extra difficulty to conditions.

Forecast for Tuesday 29 Dec 2020

Weather: Becoming cloudier overnight with showers perhaps merging to bring a longer spell of sleet and snow, but mostly clearing by morning, then a bright, but rather cloudy start with some sunny spells, but still cold and frosty in places. Clouds tending to build through the morning to bring scattered snow showers, but most of these will be across the northeast of the Park

Maximum wind: Northwest becoming northeast 20 gust 30mph, but 25-30 gust 40mph at times over higher tops, especially in or near showers

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 30% overnight with quiet extensive cloud down to 400m, then 70% with more occasional, broken cloud above 500m

Visibility: Good or very good away from showers, but very poor at height at times

Temperature: **Valleys:** Minus 1 C to plus 2 C, with frost persisting in some of the dales throughout the day
At 800m: Minus 4 to minus 6 C
Freezing level: 200 or 300m

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Sunday 27 December. Location: Helvellyn summit at 14:45. Temperature: minus 3.1degC, Maximum wind speed 28.4mph, Wind chill: minus 13.4degC, Average wind speed: 24.6mph. Full report: Storm Bella swept through the Lake District giving very challenging conditions overnight closely followed by a significant drop in temperature and snow showers down to valley level throughout the day. The high fells are once again in full winter condition and an ice axe and crampons are essential for anyone venturing above 500m even on the easiest routes. Snow is lying above 300m and increases in depth with height up to calf deep with deeper drifts. Above 700m this is overlying patches of refrozen older snow which can catch out the unwary. The new snow is being redeposited onto N through E slopes by a fresh SW wind. Areas above 700m including the Helvellyn Edges and plateau are a mixture of old refrozen & icy snow, fresh snow with small areas of windslab, rime and bare rock. Cornices were beginning to develop above the East Face and should be given a wide berth as they are particular unstable while forming. Exposed turf was frozen but any areas buried under the new snow are still soggy. Full winter clothing and equipment including an ice axe, crampons, warm and waterproof clothing, map & compass, goggles and a headtorch are currently essential to safely enjoy the winter fells.

Issued at: 2130 on Sun 27 Dec 2020

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